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SACRAMENTO RIVER Headwaters to the Ocean Public Information and Education

Sacramento River Discovery Center, Cathy Klinesteker, Executive Director
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Sacramento River Discover Center is a private, non-profit corporation, 501 C3, Federal Tax ID # 68-0374064

Participants/collaborators: Mendocino National Forest; Butte Creek Watershed Conservancy; Mill Creek Watershed Conservancy; Deer Creek Watershed Conservancy; Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance; Sacramento River Preservation Trust; Little Chico Creek Education Consortium; Chico Creek Nature Center; Streaminders; Environmental Protection Agency, 319H Grant members, Placer County, Dry Creek, Cache Creek, Auburn Ravine, Delta Keepers; Partners in Education/Los Molinos Unified School District; Evergreen Union School District; Red Bluff Union High School District; Butte County Office of Education; Tehama County Office of Education; Region 9 (nine Northeastern Counties of CA) County Superintendents; Red Bluff Elementary School District; Lawrence Hall of Science, UC Berkeley; CSU Chico; UC Davis, Paul Siri (Bodega Marine Lab); CH2MHill; Tehama County Farm Bureau; Lindauer River Ranch; Sierra Pacific; Shasta and Butte Chapters of the California Native Plant Society; Nature Conservancy; Diana Jacobs, State Lands Commission; SB1086 Riparian Habitat Committee; Upper Sacramento River Exchange; Shasta/Tehama Bioregional Council; Congressman Vic Fazio; Tehama County Board of Supervisors; Red Bluff Chamber of Commerce; Department of Water Resources; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Bureau of Reclamation; California Department of Fish and Game; Boy Scouts of America, Mt. Diablo Silverado Council, Troop 3, Napa, CA

Support letters on file at the Discovery Center and available upon request.

Project Group Type: Other Services

DWR WAREHOUSE

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A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND APPROACH

This project will provide the public information/education component of CALFED work to ensure that the improvements on the river and the maintenance of a sustainable, balanced, healthy river system is understood and supported by the general public. It will provide places and programs for the California public, educators, volunteers, and other participants to learn about the value and importance of the water resources of the Sacramento River. The programs will be incorporated into schools throughout the watershed. It embodies a collaborative effort in which federal and state agencies, agriculture and timber, fisheries and environmental interests, schools and colleges, private groups and individuals work together to tell the story of the river, the land it borders, and the human and biotic resources that provide so much to California.

Phase I of the development of this plan is well underway. The Sacramento River Discovery Center (SRDC) provides services for the general public and school groups.

Phase II, to be funded jointly through this proposal and matching funds, will allow:

Task 1: Expansion of facilities to allow for expanded public events, teacher trainings and student learning experiences.

Task 2: Expansion of the teacher training program and other education/information programs to broaden the overall programs at SRDC

Task 3: Completion of the planning phase for satellite educational centers along the entire length of the Sacramento River. These centers will be linked together educationally, electronically and programmatically, and provide learning opportunities throughout the watershed as well as conducting practical research for day to day decision making. This proposal is the next step in a system-wide, coordinated information/education plan incorporating small, grass roots satellite centers tied to the Watershed Conservancies, community colleges, state universities, University of California, private non-profit educational facilities, and local efforts from the headwaters to the mouth of the Sacramento River. It will continue the direction and momentum supported by CVPIA, EPA, PG&E, and other public and private partners and help to establish linkages to other watershed education programs funded through CVPIA, EPA, CALFED, and many other sources.

Phase III will depend on the base of programs and materials established by Phase II as a model at the Sacramento River Discovery Center to establish the regional centers stretching from the headwaters of the Sacramento River in the mountains through the Central Valley, the delta and the bay to the Pacific Ocean. This proposal must be funded to support the next step toward this long-term comprehensive plan for the public information/education component of the CALFED vision to restore quality and establish good water management in the Sacramento River watershed.

WORK COMPLETED (Phase I):

The Sacramento River Discovery Center is a private, non-profit dedicated to public information and education, started with funding from CVPIA. 46 public and private groups participated actively to plan the vision and implement first steps for SRDC and many more have become partners in the continuing growth of that vision. The Discovery Center is located on 488 acres of public land managed jointly by Mendocino National Forest, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation adjacent to the Red Bluff Diversion Dam. Its history of bringing together diverse groups of people to provide a balanced view of the river has resulted in great strides toward development of the Center.

- ◆ Temporary Modular Building: open to the general public 6 days per week, hosts monthly evening programs, and regularly scheduled events.
- ◆ School programs include day programs and overnight camping experiences with all activities tied to watershed education.
- ◆ High School/College Natural Resources Academy
- ◆ Teacher training program/curriculum materials for outdoor education camps on site; regular teacher inservices implemented.
- ◆ Sacramento River Discovery Center Non-Profit Board managing SRDC business.
- ◆ Conceptual Building Plan for the permanent center with fund-raising initiated and a detailed site plan for the 488 acres.
- ◆ Group campground for 100 people at one time; with cabins, restrooms, showers, and a covered eating and cooking area to support group activities.
- ◆ Interpretive trails through a variety of habitats demonstrating the complexity of the riparian system.
- ◆ 7 acre pond and wetland completed through a partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Board, and a local heavy equipment contractor.
- ◆ 40 acre oak woodland (*Quercus lobata*) being completed in partnership with P.G. & E.
- ◆ Expansion of educational displays and programming with support of the Bureau of Reclamation Water Conservation Education program.

PHASE II, to be completed with this CALFED funding and matching funds:

- ◆ Day use and camping programs on site will support up to 100 per day for day use and an equal number per day for camping programs with additional facilities.
- ◆ Fund raising for permanent facility including architectural drawings and fund raising strategy implemented.
- ◆ Planning meetings for all river educational centers with development of detailed plans for satellite center facilities and programs.

NEXT STEPS, (Phase III, to be completed with future funding):

- ◆ Permanent SRDC facility completed, at which time the interim building funded by CALFED will become the public interpretive center at one of the satellite river educational centers.
- ◆ Completion of educational centers spanning the entire river.
- ◆ Outreach to other watersheds wanting to replicate our programs.

The completion of phase III will bring to fruition a model for worldwide dissemination of public information/education that is part of the core of people living in the watershed. From the children to adult education to recreation to retirees, people will be engaged in meaningful activities connecting them to their watershed. This is how stewardship is born and wise management of water resources becomes the expected norm.

TIMELINE: Winter, 1997; staff hired; RFP for building developed; programming and materials development expansion; begin fund raising for permanent center and additional cabins at SRDC to support 100 campers at one time in cabins, planning and contacts initiated for educational centers along the river (sites already identified include Redding, Chico, Sacramento, Bay Area.

Winter, 1998; begin planning meetings for educational centers; SRDC interim building and additional group campground cabins in place by spring, 1998. Expand educational program to 200 per day capacity by spring, 1998; initiate recruitment of full-time high school interns to begin in Fall, 1998.

Spring, 1998; expanded educational programs at SRDC operational; funding secured for permanent building; architectural and engineering work on permanent building initiated; continued monitoring work on riparian plantings and habitat development on SRDC site, first annual spring river celebration at SRDC.

Summer, 1998; plans for educational centers along the entire length of the river complete; summer full-time Natural Resource Academy expanded to include college interns; final organization for full-time academy to begin fall, 1998, complete plans for fall river celebration at SRDC to complement, support, and advertise those at Coleman and Feather River Hatcheries.

B. LOCATION OF THE PROJECT

Geographic location is the Sacramento River watershed. The counties listed are those adjacent to the river but surrounding counties will not be excluded from inclusion in programming and as stakeholders in the overall health of the watershed. From headwaters to mouth, counties are: Siskiyou, Shasta, Tehama, Glenn, Butte, Colusa, Sutter, Yolo, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, Contra Costa, Sonoma, Napa, Marin, Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara.

C. EXPECTED BENEFITS

This project will benefit all aspects of stressors on the river because people, directly or indirectly are the primary stressors of the Sacramento River Water System. Wise management of water resources depends on an informed public that understands river systems and feels a commitment, responsibility, and sense of stewardship for the health of the system. Programs for the general public, as well as for school and community groups will include systems understanding and first hand experience in the riparian habitat and on the river. In the first six months of piloting the SRDC river camp and day use programs, over 1200 students participated in day use activities and over 400 students had extended camping experiences along the river with 160 of the older students participating in a full-day raft trip with interpretive stops. This kind of intense experience with the river promotes understanding of the variety of needs and uses for water and a definite sense of stewardship for the river that belongs to all citizens. Until this kind of public understanding is incorporated into every restoration, every new fish screen, every attempt to maintain a balanced system, it will continue to be a government or water company or farmer's or fishermen's issue and the river won't have the voice of a critical mass of the people to assure balance in the system. There has been much talk of the need for education and some progress in pockets of our world. This project proposes a unified effort for this river, public and private, old, young, environmentalist, farmer, fisherman, and logger. When SB 1086 began its first meetings, the proposers of this project were there, working with Tom Murdock in Washington State as he began his world-wide Adopt-A-Stream Foundation, getting funding from the Salmon Stamp fund to place aquaria systems all over the watershed. Thousands of students have studied anadromous fish as a result. While committees met, participants in this project proposed and received over 4 million dollars from state and federal sources including the National

Science Foundation to complete 10 years of teacher training which included intensive studies of the Sacramento River Watershed. For the field portion of the program, teachers spent three days on buses and boats traveling from Mt. Shasta to the ocean with a team of scientists, learning about this river and all the stressors that effect it. Over 500 teachers participated. Multiply that by 30 students per teacher (not including those that teach departmentally and touch about 150 students per day). The project met for 10 years. These teachers to date have touched 150,000 students. The writers of this proposal have this level of impact and experience that is culminating in this project. To expand to the general public, the project staff have led river tours, presented at professional conferences regionally and throughout the U.S., and worked with interpretive centers all over the watershed. This program will become a model for river education for people of all ages.

D. BACKGROUND AND BIOLOGICAL/TECHNICAL JUSTIFICATION

Task 1

Expansion of the SRDC facilities to accommodate expanded public events, teacher trainings, and student learning experiences will more than double the ability of the Discovery Center to implement programs. Larger groups will be able to attend public events. Space for planning meetings will be available. Larger groups of teachers will be able to participate in training programs at one time, increasing efficiency and effectiveness. Similar results will be achievable with students and simultaneous teacher trainings and student programs will be possible. Current facilities are capable of holding groups of thirty or less for trainings and slightly more for receptions and other events. Additional space will allow for much greater utilization and more specialized use of the facilities.

Task 2

Expansion of the public information/education and teacher training workshops is the key to broadening the overall education program at SRDC and building capacity to establish satellite centers.

Task 3

Establishment of satellite centers throughout the watershed will allow for the development of localized education programs, a center for the specific programs of the local watersheds and an opportunity for students, teachers and the public to learn about the complexity and linkages between the tributaries and the main stem Sacramento River. Field trip opportunities will be broadened, cross age teaching opportunities will be emphasized, and intern opportunities for older students with private and public entities engaged in watershed work will be emphasized. This will allow for greater discussions of the biological similarities and differences between tributaries, the main stem and the ocean. The broader the understanding of the biological complexities, the better the chances to develop comprehensive solutions.

E. PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK

Task 1

The expansion of the SRDC facilities to accommodate expanded public information/education, teacher trainings and student learning experiences, and serve as a model for development of satellite facilities.

Task 2

Expand the teacher training program to include educators throughout the state. Incorporate two 3-day institutes following the river from headwaters to mouth with two days of training prior to each traveling institute at SRDC to best prepare educators for optimal learning. A one-day follow-up will be held after each traveling to allow teachers to develop implementation plans for their sites.

Task 3

Establishment of satellite information/education centers throughout the Sacramento River watershed will allow for more localized training programs for schools while complementing the regional watershed programs promoted through SRDC. It will also allow for grass roots public programs to be developed based on the very successful model at SRDC.

F. MONITORING AND DATA EVALUATION

This project is always in a monitoring and data evaluation mode. Feedback from the public, teachers that have been through the training programs and students all provide the best possible monitoring program for the success of SRDC programs. Monitoring and data evaluation for programs to date is on file at SRDC. Monitoring for the proposed project will include: (1) records of matching funds (2) visitor records (3) volunteer hours (4) teacher workshop evaluations (5) project director annual report (6) satellite center planning meeting evaluations.

G. IMPLEMENTABILITY

The SRDC has been in operation with a steadily expanding group of members, volunteers, educators and participants. This allows for the immediate implementation of the tasks and immediate results of better educated students and general public.

IV. BUDGET

A. Costs and Schedule to implement proposed project

Project Phase and task	Direct labor hours	Direct Salaries and benefits	Overhead labor (general, admin and fee	Service contracts	Materials and acquisition contracts	Miscellaneous and other direct costs	Total costs
Task 1 SRDC		70,000	16,900	14,000	50,000	19,000	169900
Task 2 Teacher		90,000	16,600	42,000		19,000	167600
Task 3 Satellite		85,000	16,600	9,000	40,000	19,000	169600
Totals							507100

Cost Share Portion of Budget

To date: site development, planning, and programming:

CVPIA U.S. Bureau of Reclamation \$410,000

U.S. Forest Service (in partnership with SRDC) 50,500

Ben's Trucking (wetland development, local contractor) 102,000

Volunteer time at SRDC, 12,600 hrs for 9 months 126,000

Wildlife Conservation Board 50,000

Dept. of Ag., Rural Business Enterprise Grant 85,000

TOTAL COST SHARE TO DATE \$823,500

Cost Share already scheduled for granting period

P.G.&E. \$250,000

Bureau of Reclamation, Water Conservation Education 54,000

COST SHARE APPROVED FOR GRANT PERIOD \$304,000

TOTAL COST SHARE \$1,127,500

B. SCHEDULED MILESTONES

Winter, 1997; staff hired; RFP for building developed; programming and materials development expansion; begin fund raising for permanent center and additional cabins at SRDC to support 100 campers at one time in cabins, planning and contacts initiated for educational centers along the river (sites already identified include Redding, Chico, Sacramento, Bay Area.

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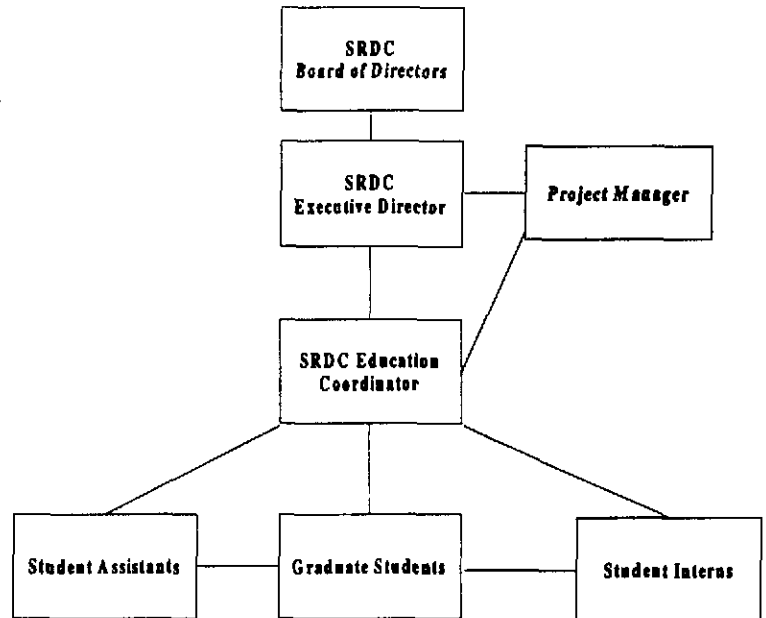
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C. THIRD PARTY IMPACTS

All impacts from this project will be positive. No mitigation will be required.

V. APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS

Organization of staff, see attached chart. All activities of SRDC fall under the direction of the Board of Directors. The Board includes: the local director of the Shasta College Red Bluff Center who also developed and coordinates the Ide Adobe State Park docent program, a wildlife biologist with Sierra Pacific Industries, a representative from the Tehama County Farm Bureau, the regional AmeriCorps watershed program coordinator, the director of the Sacramento River Preservation Trust, the owner of Lindauer River Ranch, and a member of the Tehama County Board of Supervisors. The SRDC Executive Director, Cathy Klinesteker, will be the Director for this project. Her duties will include:



- ◆ Hire, supervise, and evaluate staff.
- ◆ Assure compliance with all applicable laws, bylaws, and policies.
- ◆ Develop, maintain, and implement (or cause to be developed, maintained, and implemented) an annual budget to accomplish SRDC goals with monthly reports to the SRDC Board and annual audits.
- ◆ Facilitate program and facilities development, evaluation, and change. Provide ongoing leadership and direction.
- ◆ Participate, and cause other staff to participate, in ongoing professional development to assure that SRDC is current with best practices and information.
- ◆ Provide reports/training to assure that staff and the SRDC Board are current in professional practices and information.
- ◆ Promote the vision and goals of SRDC, CALFED, and other partners in supporting learning experiences related to the watershed.
- ◆ Create and maintain (or cause to be created and maintained) viable volunteer programs in conjunction with SRDC operations.
- ◆ Seek continued funding for Phase III of this project and endowment support for long-term sustainability of SRDC.

All other staff will be hired as part of the project in a fair practice, competitive manner. Specific individual responsibilities covering technical, administrative and project management roles are described below:

The Education Coordinator will (1) work with the general public and schools to develop and implement programming. (2) work with the Director and satellite site representatives to develop plans for satellite center programs and facilities. (3) assist the Director, as appropriate, to meet the goals of this project.

Project Manager will (1) manage the details of program scheduling, materials purchase and organization, and other support for the project staff.

Graduate assistants, graduate students, and student interns will perform a variety of program support tasks. Examples include: (1) interpretive docents (2) development, implementation, and sharing of monitoring projects (3) outreach (4) development of recreation, interpretive, and management plans (5) research projects

The nature and extent of other collaborating participants is partially documented as cost share in the project budget. To date, over a million dollars in community support has been dedicated to the Discovery Center. This doesn't even account for the people who show up unscheduled to pull weeds in the Discovery Garden (we simply find an area cleared of weeds), or for the puppet theater and hundreds of dollars of puppets donated for interpretive programs, or for the thousands of free sodas that WalMart Distribution Center gives to the Discovery Center for volunteers who plant and clean and weed and build, and, so, become the owners of this place and programs. Our most prominent partners are listed on the cover page of this proposal. But how do you count the family with their two children who come to water the tree they planted? How do you count the extra hours when high school interns who led a rafting trip for elementary students from Woodland come to their camp program in the evening after their own school, sports, and homework to join the younger students for campfire and folk dancing? How do you count the power of the first time a youngster from Oakland watches an osprey catch a fish? How do you quantify the value of people getting the river in their hearts through direct experience? The writers of this proposal have attempted to share a glimpse of a vision for assuring that the improvements on the river and the maintenance of a sustainable, balanced, healthy river system is understood and supported by the general public. To really see the power of our work, you'll have to spend a day at the Discovery Center or, better, yet, on the river with the people of all ages that make up the SRDC team.

Cathy Klinesteker, Biosketch

Education

Bachelor of Science degree, UC Davis, Environmental Communication; Teaching credentials, science and multiple subject; Administrative credential/MA degree, curriculum development, California State University, Sacramento

Experience related to this project

- ◆ Executive Director, Sacramento River Discovery Center, from first funding, through planning phase to first stage implementation, to present.
- ◆ Teacher, teacher inservice provider, and curriculum developer for 20 years
- ◆ National Science Foundation teacher training project, 10 years, Director and Evaluator
- ◆ Lawrence Hall of Science, program staff and consultant
- ◆ California State Department of Education, curriculum development in science
- ◆ Christa McAuliffe fellowship, wetland restoration and curriculum development
- ◆ Salmon Stamp project, Salmon, from eggs to ocean, curriculum and field studies with 10 schools

References who have worked with Cathy Klinesteker on the programs listed above: Linda DeLucchi, Lawrence Hall of Science; Dr. Marvin Locke, Superintendent, Tehama County Department of Education; Congressman Vic Fazio; Jim Smith, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service; Floyd Summers/Burford Holt, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation; Harry Rectenwald/John Siperek, California Department of Fish and Game; Scott Clemons, Wildlife Conservation Board; Stacey Cepello, Department of Water Resources; Diana Jacobs, State Land Commission; Ed Christofferson, CH2MHill; Julie Kelley, Sierra Pacific; Tom Heffernan, Tehama County Farm Bureau

No potential conflicts of interest exist.

VI. COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

As a private non-profit the Sacramento River Discovery Center has the following requirements:

(1) non-discrimination compliance

The required form is attached.

NONDISCRIMINATION COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

COMPANY NAME

The company named above (hereinafter referred to as "prospective contractor") hereby certifies, unless specifically exempted, compliance with Government Code Section 12990 (a-f) and California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 4, Chapter 5 in matters relating to reporting requirements and the development, implementation and maintenance of a Nondiscrimination Program. Prospective contractor agrees not to unlawfully discriminate, harass or allow harassment against any employee or applicant for employment because of sex, race, color, ancestry, religious creed, national origin, disability (including HIV and AIDS), medical condition (cancer), age, marital status, denial of family and medical care leave and denial of pregnancy disability leave.

CERTIFICATION

I, the official named below, hereby swear that I am duly authorized to legally bind the prospective contractor to the above described certification. I am fully aware that this certification, executed on the date and in the county below, is made under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California.

OFFICIAL'S NAME

Cathy Klinesteker

DATE EXECUTED

July 23, 1997

EXECUTED IN THE COUNTY OF

Tehama County

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S SIGNATURE

Cathy Klinesteker

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S TITLE

Executive Director

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S LEGAL BUSINESS NAME

Sacramento River Discovery Center